

10 years. At the far right is teammate Tara Olson, while an injured Nicole Karhi (left) also celebrates with Maria Henderson.

Photo by Doréen Heinz

NEXUS reaccredited, praised by American Correctional Association

By CHARLIE DENISON
Staff Writer

Last month, the American Correctional Association reaccredited Lewistown's NEXUS Methamphetamine Treatment Center.

Scoring high in every category and abiding by all 117 required standards, NEXUS passed with flying colors, receiving glowing reports about the staff and the family members being treated.

"Nearly all of the staff encountered by the audit team merited our praise," the audit report reads. "Rarely does an audit team have the privilege of auditing a facility that is well structured and complete with such great staff. Each person and staff the audit team encountered was open, honest and competent."

NEXUS Administrator Rick Barman said he is very pleased with the auditors report and the impression made by the staff.

"This is huge," Barman said. "I really appreciate the hard work the staff puts in and their level of professionalism. I was glad to see them get recognized for it."

The auditors came to Lewistown Nov. 10 and 11 of last year. Areas of NEXUS they looked at included security, environmental conditions, sanitation, fire safety, food service, medical care, recreation, religious programming, offender work program, academic and vocational education, social services, visitation, library services and laundry.

On Feb. 8, Barman and NEXUS Security Coordinator Darren Fisher attended the ACA Winter Conference in Long Beach, California, where they received the report from auditors and were officially reaccredited.

"A lot of work goes into the accreditation process," Barman said. "We are up for reaccreditation every three years, and it can be a challenge to put all the paperwork together that is needed, but we were able to get everything the auditors needed ready for them and get all of their questions answered to their satisfaction. The auditors were very thorough in their investigation. They wanted to make sure we were doing what we were supposed to be doing."



NEXUS Clinical Director Howard Lamley, left, talks with NEXUS Administrator Rick Barman Monday afternoon in the gym at the NEXUS facility. The American Correctional Association reaccredited NEXUS last month.

Photo by Charlie Denison

Barman said he couldn't be happier with the results. Not only was the staff praised; the NEXUS family members being treated were also complimented.

"The team was impressed with the positive attitudes displayed by the offenders, which are in direct correlation to the

quality of the treatment program and facility operations," the audit reads.

This is the third time NEXUS has been reaccredited. The treatment center opened in 2008. The treatment center employs 44 people when fully staffed and can hold up to 86 family members.

Exhibit No. 4
Fergus County commission-
Ross Butler both testified
"I am in support of this
Commissioner's staff as a me
Walleyes Unlimited board,"
mittee.

"I think this is common enforcement to the same st.
Former state senator, now
Winifred also testified in su
Opponents to the bill i

Game Wardens Associatio
attorney general who, for n
the statewide prosecutor fi
Montana Sportsmen's Alli

County Sportsmen's Associ
"When we are fully staf
Parks has 75 field game w
wide," said FWP Chief of

Kropp. "Montana has 148,0
of our folks cover 2,000 sq
We log 135,000 - 150,000 fa
year and write about 4,000

"Our wardens are peace
the same law enforcement
officers. There's a lot of pas
because the public cares a
but we don't support the

Kropp added.

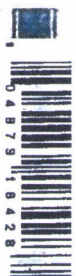
According to FWP Deput
ment Mike Korn, reached
dens have supervisors and
complaints to ensure propo

"The state constitution
tections for the public," Kor
He also disagreed that ti
officers to write citations f
the law.

"We do not have a quot
tions given is not part of t
for our wardens," Korn sai
cers based on things like h
sportsmen groups and land
with hunter education."

Korn said while wardens
4,000 citations per year, ti
times as many warnings.

"Things will go wrong
Korn said, "but that's unusi
The Montana House of R
to 35 against HB281, which
dead" on the legislature's v



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OBITUARIES, NO



Nexus family gives to Head Start



As part of their treatment, the family members at the Nexus Program learn to give back to others. This fall staff members, Michelle Stanton and Karlyle Conner oversaw a group of family members that sold challenge bracelets as a fund raiser. Those funds were used to purchase coats and mittens for several of the families at Central Montana Head Start. The children were excited to receive their new winter gear and have been putting these warm clothes to good use on a daily basis. Central Montana Head Start appreciates the family members of Nexus for their service to the community.

Head Start student Bobbi enjoys a day of snow play in a new coat provided by Nexus family members.

Photo courtesy of Head Start